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McNamara

Memo for DCI from DD/R (Scoville) re meeting with Secretary McNamara, Dep Secty Gilpatric, Dr. Charyk (DNRO) and DCI

1. NRO Organization. Mr. McCone presented his paper relative to revision of the NRO organization to eliminate the present dual reporting feature for the DNRO and the establishment of SecDef as Executive Agent to the NRPlanning Grp. In commenting on the proposal Secretary McNamara stated that he had always had reservations on the requirement for a special organization for reconnaissance and did not understand why ~~x~~ in the long run this could not be handled by normal intelligence organizational procedures. He went on to state that he would like to look to one organization in the Defense Department for all intelligence matters and felt that perhaps NSA and NRO should be subordinate to DIA. Mr. McCone indicated he felt both NSA and NRO activities transcended strictly military intelligence and that it would be undesirable to have this subordination. He also pointed out the present difficulties which ~~NNS~~ DIA was having in getting itself to be a truly functional organization.

25X1 5. Mr. McCone expressed his concern about potential damage to the A-12 intelligence program which might result from any disclosure in connection with the  program. He felt while the cover story was about the best that might be developed, it would not prevent wide-spread speculation and compromise of the A-12. Secretary McNamara understood his concern and said he felt a decision on this could well wait for a month since many actions were required prior to the time such a disclosure might occur. Mr. McCone expressed the concern of the President's Intelligence Board in this connection, and all agreed that prior to making any decision the matter would have to be thoroughly discussed with the President. The NRO was requested to raise the matter again with the DCI and Secretary of Defense the first of November (1962)